

and more. He also successfully commanded the first Active and Reserve Component integrated headquarters to serve in Bosnia.

Along with his Army National Guard service, MG Halverson continued his life of service in the State of Texas, where he served in the Governor's Division of Emergency Management and as a Deputy Insurance Commissioner for Safety. Following his retirement from military service in March 2002, MG Halverson continued to serve as a mentor for other National Guard Division and Brigade Commanders and Staff.

MG Halverson's skills as a strategic leader have improved every organization he's associated with. His commitment to community and his role as a mentor and friend to his colleagues make him a valuable asset to improving the quality of life in the Lone Star State.

I commend Major General Robert Halverson's selfless service to both the United States Army and his nation. His patriotism, citizenship, and commitment to excellence reflect the very best values of Central Texas. I join MG Halverson's friends, family, and colleagues in celebrating his outstanding achievements.

SHIVAM ALBEE SHINES WITH
SCHOOL PROJECT

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Shivam Albee of Sugar Land, TX for his enthusiasm about government and in particular Congress.

Shivam has expressed a keen interest in how our government works. He and his parents recently visited Washington, DC with stops in their congressional office and our nation's Capitol building. As a result of his trip, he completed a school report on how Congress operates. His eagerness to learn and contribute to our representative democracy is heartwarming and gives us hope for our future leaders. America is at its best with an engaged and active citizenry. We hope more students and young leaders emerge as they become adults.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, thank you Shivam Albee for reminding us of the importance of youthful enthusiasm. We are proud of his hard work and look forward to his future success.

TRIBUTE TO PAM AND CHARLIE
MANNING

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Pam and Charlie Manning of Glenwood, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on August 20, 1966 in Gary, Indiana.

Pam and Charlie's lifelong commitment to each other, their children, and their grandchild, truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

HONORING THE AIR FORCES
ESCAPE AND EVASION SOCIETY

HON. NIKI TSONGAS

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2016

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, every November 11th, we stop to recognize the brave men and women who have served our country in our armed forces. Having just marked Veterans Day, I would like to recognize one group of extraordinary servicemembers in particular, the United States Air Forces Escape and Evasion Society, or AFEES.

Since the United States military first began using airplanes in foreign wars, members of the United States Air Forces have been forced to eject, crash land, or abandon their aircraft in an occupied country or territory. Once downed, these airmen had to evade capture by enemy forces, oftentimes while suffering from critical injuries.

Of the downed aircrew members that were captured, many escaped from the enemy who were holding them in captivity. Many times, downed servicemembers were aided in their escape and evasion by resistance organizations in those occupied countries. Thousands of brave, ordinary people took extraordinary risks at huge costs to both them and their families to help these brave Americans and help them return home.

In 1964, the United States Air Forces Escape and Evasion Society was created by the downed aircrew members who evaded capture. Today, AFEES includes downed aircrew members and people who directly aided them in escape and evasion and has more than 600 members, including members from World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War.

I am proud to represent one brave AFEES member, the group's President, John Katsaros of Haverhill, Massachusetts. Today, I would like to recognize the United States Air Forces Escape and Evasion Society and the achievements made by its members: to never accept captivity and to constantly strive for their freedom. Thank you for your service and for the inspiration you are to all of us.

GENE CHILD

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Gene Child

for receiving the Golden Mayor's Award for Excellence.

For decades, Gene has dedicated his time, resources, and abilities to preserving our community's history. He co-founded the Golden Landmarks Association to save the Astor House from demolition, assisted in converting the old Presbyterian Church into the Foothills Art Center, and helped move the Guy Hill School from the former Mitchell Elementary site to the Clear Creek History Park, then helped restore it. Even now he cares for the chickens that live in History Park. Gene and his beloved Arlene were part of the effort to create the 12th Street Historic District in 1984.

I congratulate Gene for being the recipient of this well-deserved honor by Mayor Marjorie Sloan, and I thank him for his continued commitment to the people and families he serves.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 75TH AN-
NIVERSARY OF THE MESSIAS
TEMPLE CHURCH

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2016

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th anniversary of the Messiah Temple Church. It is my honor and privilege to recognize the contributions Messiah Temple Church has made to our community.

Established in 1941 by John T. Elder and Sister Laura Elder, the Ypsilanti Messiah Temple Church is dedicated to building a permanent sanctuary for people of the community to have a place to connect with each other, and strengthen their faith. Messiah was built on a principle that welcomed people of all walks of life, giving positions of leadership not common within the Church for its time. In 1949 after the passing of Elder John T. Elder, his widowed wife, Sister Laura Elder, was elected as Church Pastor and remained until her retirement in 1974, demonstrating that this Church would celebrate the diversity of Ypsilanti, and lead by progressive example. Jesse Ross was then chosen to serve as pastor, and personally led the congregation to its new permanent home on Harriet Street in 1984. Pastor Ross continued to serve until his death in 1991, when Harry Grayson was selected to continue the proud tradition of service and leadership. Today we celebrate the 75th anniversary of Messiah Temple Church, as well as the 25th anniversary of Suffragan Bishop Grayson's appointment. Providing strong leadership within the community has long been the cornerstone of Messiah Temple Church, and the tradition continues as the church looks forward to the next 75 years of serving the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in gratitude to honor the 75th anniversary of Messiah Temple Church. For seventy-five years now, Messiah Temple has displayed an immense passion and deep devotion for improving the lives of its members, and also the people of Ypsilanti, and we wish them many more years of success.